Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 13529 191326Z

46
ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 ACDA-19 AEC-11 IO-13 CIAE-00

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 NEA-10 TRSE-00 MBFR-04 SAJ-01

DRC-01 OMB-01 OIC-04 /161 W
---------- 004644
P R 191312Z SEP 73
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7506
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 13529

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO, GW
SUBJECT: MBFR: CDU/CSU OPPOSITION ATTACKS "U.S. PRESS LEAKS"

REF: (A) STATE 184990, (B) BONN 13500

1. SEVERAL NATIONAL GERMAN NEWSPAPERS--DIE WELT, THE FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU, THE SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG AND THE GENERAL ANZEIGER--HAVE CARRIED EXTENSIVE REPORTS OF SEPT 18 PRESS CONFERENCE OF CDU/CSU OPPOSITION DEFENSE SPOKESMAN MANFRED WOERNER, WHO SEVERELY CRITICIZED THE U.S. FOR LEAKING SECRET ALLIED MBFR NEGOTIATION PROPOSALS. ACCORDING TO THE GERMAN PRESS REPORTS, WOERNER SAID THESE ALLEGED AMERICAN ACTIONS COULD NOT BE "EXCUSED OR JUSTIFIED," EVEN IF MOTIVATED BY THE WISH TO COMBAT MANSFIELD PRESSURE IN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 13529 191326Z

THE SENATE. WOERNER SAID THE ALLEGED U.S. LEAKS HAD

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

WITHOUT DOUBT DAMAGED NATO, WHOSE UNITY HE SAID WOULD BE MADE IMPOSSIBLE IF OTHER ALLIES WERE TO FOLLOW THE AMERICAN EXAMPLE. WOERNER ASKED "HOW EXACTLY WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE TO HAVE SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATIONS IF THE SOVIET UNION IS INFORMED FROM THE VERY START OF U.S. VIEWS". . WOERNER CONTINUES "ONE MUST ASK HIMSELF WHAT INTEREST MOSCOW SHOULD HAVE IN NEGOTIATIONS IF THE IMPRESSION INCREASINGLY DEVELOPS THAT THE U.S. HAS DECIDED ON A TROOP REDUCTION IN ANY EVENT AND INTENDS TO USE THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS ONLY AS A CAMOUFLAGE."

2. THE GENERAL ANZEIGER FRONT-PAGE REPORT BY WOLF BELL STATES THAT GERMAN GOVERNMENT SOURCES WERE MAINTAINING A "RESTRAINED POSTURE" WHILE PRIVATELY INDICATING CONCERN OVER THE PRESS REPORTS. BUT BELL CITES GOVERNMENT SOURCES AS PRIVATELY SHARING WOERNER'S CONCERN THAT THE USG WAS LEAKING THE MBFR PROPOSALS TO BEAT BACK CONGRESSIONAL PRESSURE, TO PRESS EUROPEAN PARTNERS TO ACCEPT U.S. PROPOSALS, AND TO BRING BONN UNDER PRESSURE IN THE CURRENT OFFSET NEGOTIATIONS. BELL ALSO CITES GOVERNMENT AND OPPOSITION SOURCES AS BEING CONCERNED OVER ALLEGED U.S. READINESS TO DROP THE CONCEPT OF "BALANCE" IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE SOVIETS.

3. THE WELT STORY BY VON RAVEN ADDS FURTHER DETAILS TO PREVIOUS GERMAN PRESS REPORTS. IN PARTICULAR, RAVEN REPORTS ON U.S./U.K. DISPUTE OVER COMMON CEILING/COMBAT CAPABILITY STANDARD AND GERMAN DESIDERATA CONCERNING LINKAGE BETWEEN THE TWO PHASES OF THE NEGOTIATIONS AND THE NATURE OF BUNDESWEHR INCLUSION IN THE PROCESS. RAVEN, WHO HAS TRADITIONALLY HAD EXCELLENT DEFENSE MINISTRY SOURCES, EMPHASIZES THE FRG WISH TO BE CLEAR ON THE MANNER OF BUNDESWEHR INCLUSION FROM THE OUTSET OF THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS.

4. AS INDICATED REFTEL, FONOFF AND DEFENSE MINISTRY OFFICIALS ARE INCREASINGLY DISTRESSED BY THE PROLIFERATION OF INCREASINGLY DETAILED PRESS REPORTS AND INDICATIONS THAT THESE REPORTS ARE BEING CONFIRMED FROM WASHINGTON SOURCES. FONOFF MBFR CHIEF RUTH EXPRESSED CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONCERN TO EMBOFF SEPT 19 THAT DETAILED PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS ON PRESS REPORTS WERE BOUND TO FOLLOW SHORTLY ON THE HEELS OF OUTSPOKEN PUBLIC CRITICISM BY WOERNER. HILLENBRAND

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

NNN

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, NEWS LEAKS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BONN13529
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS HILLENBRAND
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730925/aaaaasjb.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) STATE 184990, (B) BONN 13500
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31-Jul-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <18-Sep-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR: CDU/CSU OPPOSITION ATTACKS "U.S. PRESS LEAKS"
TAGS: PARM, GE, NATO, MBFR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005